

3/4/2022

Dear Senator Flexer and Representative Fox and distinguished members of the GAE Committee:

My name is Paul Honig. I am from Harwinton, CT. I serve on the Board of Selectmen in Harwinton and am a candidate for state senate in district 8.

I am testifying in support of:

1. **S.B. 184**, AN ACT EXTENDING THROUGH NOVEMBER 8, 2022, SEVERAL CHANGES REGARDING ELECTION ADMINISTRATION AS A RESULT OF COVID-19 AND CONCERNING ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT.
2. **H.B. No. 5262** AN ACT REVISING CERTAIN ABSENTEE VOTING ELIGIBILITY STATUTES

My reasons for supporting these proposed bills are simple. We remain in the midst of a pandemic. I hope that our lives will return to the way they were prior to the pandemic by election time, but there's no guarantee of that and we should be prepared.

No one should be deprived of the right to vote for fear of contracting COVID while voting. No one should be deprived of the right to vote if they actually contract COVID the day before the election. Since this pandemic began we've allowed COVID to be an excuse to request an absentee ballot. Our election system has handled it well with record turnout and without significant fraud. We should continue to allow COVID to be a valid excuse to request an absentee ballot.

Sincerely,

Paul Honig